Message Text

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SUBJECT: METHOD OF REPORTING TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT NAMES OF BERLIN MEMBERS OF FRG DELEGATION

REFS: A) STATE 225278 B) BONN 15928

1. AT THE SEPTEMBER 6 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE US REP REPORTED HIS INSTRUCTIONS (REF A) AND THE FRENCH REP (LASSUS) SAID THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS, WHILE MORE GENERAL, REPRESENTED VIEWS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT. THE UK REP SAID THAT IT REMAINS THE FCO'S VIEW THAT IT IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE THAT THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THOSE ELECTED FROM THE FRG AND THOSE SELECTED FROM BERLIN BE MAINTAINED. THE FCO BELIEVES THAT THE DISTINCTION CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY BLURRED IF, IN THE NOTIFICATION PROCESS OF THOSE SELECTED FROM BERLIN, THE DISTINCTION WAS LOST. HE SAID THAT THE FCO, LIKE THE OTHER TWO ALLIES, ALSO FAVORED AN INFORMAL APPROACH TO THE FRG. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE INSTANT BONN GROUP DISCUSSION CONSTITUTED SUCH AN INFORMAL APPROACH.

- 2. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT THE FRG DOES NOT DISAGREE THAT THERE SHOULD BE A DISTINCTION MAINTAINED WHEN SPEAKING OF THE ELECTION PROCEDURE AND, BACKING OFF FROM HIS EARLIER COMMENTS, AGREED THAT THE REPORTING OF THE NAMES WAS PART OF SUCH PROCEDURE. HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THE FRG DOES NOT WANT THE DISTINCTION TO BE EXTENDED IN SUCH A WAY AS TO HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE FRG REPRESENTATION IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT.
- 3. HE THEN SAID, ON A PERSONAL BASIS, THAT THE PREVIOUSLY -DISCUSSED TEXT (PARAGRAPH 5 OF REF B) WHICH COULD BE USED IN THE FRG'S APPROACH TO BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT CARSTENS, MIGHT BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS (INFORMAL TRANSLATION): "THERE ARE ENCLOSED THE NAMES OF THE 81 DEPUTIES ALLOCATED TO GERMANY IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WHO WERE ELECTED ON (DATE) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF GENERAL DIRECT ELECTIONS IN THE MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. THE DEPUTIES FROM BERLIN (WEST) HAVE BEEN ELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECLARATION MADE BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN CONNECTION WITH THE RATIFICATION OF THE ACT."
- 4. VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT HIS IDEA WAS THAT THE LIST WOULD BE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER BUT THAT THE NAMES OF THE DEPUTIES WOULD, IN EACH CASE, SHOW THE PLACE THE CONFIDENTIAL.

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DEPUTIES WERE FROM. SPECIFICALLY, THE THREE BERLIN DEPUTIES (AND NO OTHERS) WOULD BE SHOWN AS BEING FROM WEST BERLIN. HE ASKED FOR ALLIED VIEWS.

- 5. THE US REP SAID THAT THIS APPEARED TO BE WITHIN HIS INSTRUCTIONS, PROVIDED THAT THE LETTER FROM CARSTENS TO THE EP WAS A FORMAL WRITTEN DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD APPEAR IN THE EP RECORDS. VON BRAUNMUEHL CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS HIS IDEA ALSO.
- 6. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, DURING WHICH EYERS SAID THAT HE COULD NOT COMMENT AUTHORITATIVELY ON THE NEW SUGGESTED PROCEDURE SINCE HE HAD NOT REPORTED THAT THE FOOTNOTE IDEA WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO THE FRG, VON BRAUNMUEHL SAID THAT HE WOULD TRY THIS IDEA IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THAT HE HOPED THE ALLIED REPS WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO PROVIDE THEIR VIEWS AT AN EARLY OPPORTUNITY.
- 7. COMMENT: UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY, WE WILL ASSUME THAT THE PROPOSAL DESCRIBED ABOVE IS CONSISTENT WITH OUR INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A. MEEHAN

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